

### REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-15 are pending in the present application. Claim 6 was previously canceled. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7-9, 14 and 15 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has objected to use of the term "metal alloys" in claim 5. Applicant has amended claim 5 according to the Examiner's suggestion. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 5, as amended renders the Examiner's objection moot.

Claims 1-5, 7-10 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Harper, Jr., *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,375,474 B1, hereinafter "Harper"). Claims 11-13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harper in view of Bargain, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,437,556, hereinafter "Bargain") and Martin (U.S. Patent No. 3,904,934, hereinafter "Martin"). Claim 15 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harper in view of Lopergolo, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,800,184, hereinafter "Lopergolo"). Claims 1-5 and 7-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harper in view of Martin and Lopergolo. Claims 1-5 and 7-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lopergolo in view of Rathburn (U.S. Patent No. 6,178,629 B1, hereinafter "Rathburn"), Hashiguchi (U.S. Patent No. 5,820,389, hereinafter "Hashiguchi") and Grabbe, *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,969,826, hereinafter "Grabbe"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Independent claims 1, 9 and 15 have been amended to recite "each connection pin comprises a maximum extension length of between about 0.1mm and about 1.5mm."

Harper, Bargain, Martin, Lopergolo, Rathburn, Hashiguchi and Grabbe do not teach or suggest, either alone or in combination, each connection pin comprising a maximum extension length of between about 0.1mm and about 1.5mm. Applicant, therefore, respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9 and 15 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 2-5 and 7-8 depend from claim 1 and add further limitations, and claims 10-14 depend from claim 9 and add further limitations. It is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are allowable by reason of depending from an allowable claim as well as for adding new limitations.

Applicant has made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Ira S. Matsil, Applicant's attorney, at 972-732-1001 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. In the event that the enclosed fees are insufficient, please charge any additional fees required to keep this application pending, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1065.

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Date

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Respectfully submitted,



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